

State of Maryland Commission on Civil Rights
Commission Meeting
June 9, 2015 – 10am
MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Shawn M. Wright, Chairperson

Present via Conference Call: Robert L. Baum, Esq., Vice Chairperson; Gina McKnight-Smith, Pharm. D., M.B.A.; Gary L. Norman, Esq.; Rabbi Binyamin Marwick; Laura Esquivel

Management Present: Alvin O. Gillard, Executive Director; Cleveland L. Horton II, Deputy Director; Nicolette Young, Assistant Director;

Staff Present: S. Spencer Dove, Executive Associate

ITEM	SUMMARY	ACTION
Call to Order	1. Meeting called to order at 10:03 a.m.	None.
Approval of Minutes	1. Motion to approve minutes by Baum, seconded by McKnight-Smith; motion carries without dissent.	Approved.
Chairperson's Report	1. Chief Manger of Montgomery County Police will be featured guest at July, 2015 meeting. 2. Chair and Executive Director met with U.S. Civil Rights Commission Chair Martin Castro to discuss how we can work together. U.S. Commission is trying to reactivate Maryland civil rights advisory group, which functions as a local arm of the U.S. Commission. U.S. Commission drawing up a paper for Congress on civil rights matters – would like MCCR review and input to add anything Maryland-specific for the paper. Chair Castro is interested in coming to MCCR Commission meeting. U.S. Commission is very supportive of MCCR.	None.
Executive Director's Report	1. MCCR has attended and hosted around 10 meetings on the topic of police-community relations, either with the U.S. DOJ Community Relations Service or independently. MCCR is a continued key partner with the DOJ and others as we moved forward to identify and address police-community relations, police accountability, and economic and social justice matters. 2. May 19, 2015 – had a successful “Civil Rights Coalition” interest group meeting. Over 30 organizations represented. Workgroup to review by-laws and purpose statement met once, is meeting again next week. Full group meeting again on June 24, 2015. 3. Had a roundtable on May 28, 2015, with community leaders and law enforcement officials on the subject of police-community relations. This idea was born before Freddie Gray, and was in response to situations around the country in addition to legislation that was considered in Annapolis in 2015.	None.
Deputy Director's Report	1. Reviewed submitted report.	None.

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Assistant Director's Report	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reviewed submitted report. 2. Expended roughly 90% of agency budget. We do expect to end the fiscal year on budget, even after cuts that the agency has faced throughout the year. 3. Total cuts so far for next Fiscal Year: \$71,000. Because this is a cut from the beginning of the fiscal year, the agency will be able to spread this out and accommodate the cuts. 4. For the next month, MCCR is undergoing its regular legislative audit. 	None.
General Counsel's Report	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reviewed submitted reports. 2. Possible legislative priorities: (1) broadening Commission's investigative authority on subject matters beyond race, (2) enhancing remedies and process for public accommodations section of statute to match employment and housing, (3) reforming the commercial non-discrimination statute, and (4) adding source of income as a protected class in housing. Going to have a more interactive and definitive discussion in July on MCCR's legislative agenda and approach in 2016. 	None.
Old Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. None. 	None.
New Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Moved into Executive Session at 11:21 a.m. Moved into Regular Session at 11:28 a.m. Discussed matters that are currently in litigation. 	None.
Good & Welfare	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. None. 	None.
Adjournment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adjourned at 11:29 a.m. 	None.